CLAIMS

1/ A router made up firstly of at least two router modules, only one of which is in an active state at any given time, the others being in a standby state, and secondly of changeover means making it possible to cause one of said other router modules to go from a standby state to an active state when the router module in the active state stops, each of said router modules having connections with one or more networks, and having at least one state machine, each state machine managing the interface associated with one of said connections, wherein each of said router modules has data storage means which, in the active state, enable it to store data relating to the state of said at least one state machine, when said machine is in a stable state, and data retrieval means for retrieving said data when a changeover takes place.

2/ A router according to claim 1, in which said data is stored by a shared memory that is shared between said router modules.

3/ A router according to claim 1, in which said data is stored by inter-process communications means enabling said router modules to communicate with one another.

4/ A router according to claim 3, in which said inter-process communications means are a software bus of the CORBA type.

5/ A router according to claim 1, in which each of said router modules further has means for storing data relating to the associated interface when said interface is created, and means for retrieving said data when a changeover to the active state takes place.

6/ A router according to the preceding claim, in which a stable state is a state from the following list: "Down", "Point to Point", "DROther", "Backup", and "DR" in the OSPF protocol.